

29 November 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Publications Review Board
STATINTL THROUGH [redacted] PB/NSC Coordinator
Deputy Director, National Foreign Assessment Center
STATINTL FROM : [redacted]
PB/NSC Coordination Staff
SUBJECT : Request to Submit Article for Publication

1. I request permission to submit for publication the attached book review.

STATINTL 2. When approved, I intend to submit the review for publication in [redacted] magazine.

3. None of the material presented in the review is, to my knowledge, classified.

4. I am not under cover. But I will not be identified as an Agency employee since the magazine prefers to identify all government officials who contribute to it only as to their place of residence.

[redacted]

STATINTL

Attachment:
"Japan and the United States: Challenges and Opportunities"

SUBJECT: Request to Submit Article for Publication

STATINTL

AUTHOR'S NAME:

TITLE OF PUBLICATION: Book Review

I have reviewed the attached article, to the best of my knowledge have found it to be unclassified, and approve it for publication.

STAT

PB/NSC Coordinator

_____ Date

Deputy Director, NFAC

_____ Date

Japan and the United States: Challenges and Opportunities. Edited by William J. Barnds. New York: New York University Press, 1979. 286 pp. \$15.00 (\$6.95 paperback)

After reading this book, I became genuinely alarmed about prospects for U.S.-Japanese relations in the 1980s. The theme of this excellent collection of essays can best be summed up by quoting a passage from the concluding chapter: "...the overall Japanese-American relationship will be significantly affected by the extent to which there is a basic harmony between the policies of the two countries on key Asian issues." Profound differences and insensitivities over such issues have bedeviled U.S.-Japanese relations before (as several of the essays compellingly point out) and are all too likely to do so again.

Ever since the debacle in Vietnam, the U.S. has turned sharply away from a concern with Asia and its problems. The essays in this book demonstrate the U.S. appears to many Japanese as suspicious of Japanese intentions on a range of issues and inclined toward the use of pressure tactics that would never be used with a European ally. Despite the fact that important groups in both countries have a vested interest in close, harmonious relations, the authors expect that future strains will "erode and eventually undermine what has been an almost uniquely successful relationship."

The troubling thing about this book is that the contributors make a good case for this proposition.

The book itself grew out of discussions held under the auspices of the Council on Foreign Relations in 1977 and 1978. The resulting six essays by experienced observers of the Japanese scene examine key economic, political, and strategic aspects of the relationship and its coming problems. Specific issues are treated in the context of the basic dynamics of the relationship as they are likely to be seen from the Japanese perspective. As such, the book provides the reader not only with a first-rate review of recent developments but also an appreciation for their likely longer term implications. Scholars per se will probably find little that is new. But the book should be required reading for those who want to avoid future "shokko" --and head off disaster in the period ahead.

STATINTL

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

"Japan and the United States: Challenges and Opportunities"

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO

DATE

29 November 1979

STATOHP

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

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Evan Hineman
DD/NEAC

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Publications Review Board
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